

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 5 are amended and claim 2 is cancelled.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2 and 3. By this Amendment, the features of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1.


Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph because claim 5 recites a controller that performs an operation in a "PI control." By this Amendment, claim 5 has been amended to remove the "PI control." Support for the features recited in claim 5 can be found in paragraphs [0133] and [0152], for example, of Applicants' specification. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamaguchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,823,281, and Sumi, U.S. Patent No. 6,054,776, has been rendered moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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